



TFW

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03327.2333-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                             |   |                            |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of:       | ) |                            |
|                             | ) |                            |
| Yasuhiro OKUMOTO et al.     | ) | Group Art Unit: 1709       |
|                             | ) |                            |
| Application No.: 10/539,246 | ) |                            |
|                             | ) | Examiner: Empie, Nathan H. |
| Filed: May 9, 2006          | ) |                            |
|                             | ) |                            |
| For: PROCESSING METHOD AND  | ) | Confirmation No.: 9261     |
| PROCESSING APPARATUS        | ) |                            |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

In reply to the Office Action mailed May 31, 2007, the period for response to which extends through August 31, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper.